schools aims at building up life skills and addresses issues relating to HIV prevention. Formation of red ribbon clubs and participation of youth organizations such as Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), National Service Scheme (NSS), and National Cadet Corps (NCC) for dissemination of HIV prevention messages is part of the strategy to address vulnerabilities of the youth to the risk of HIV/AIDS.

Single Monitoring Body for PG Medical Education

91. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at present the standard of doctors acquiring post graduate degrees varies from college to college, State to State and university to university;

(b) whether two types of PG medical degrees viz. MD and MS are being awarded by medical colleges and diplomas are being awarded by the National Board of Examination;

(c) if so, whether Government have now set up a single independent body overseeing all PG medical education, as the country is becoming the Centre of International healthcare; and

(d) what are the main recommendations made by the Committee in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) At present post graduate medical qualifications namely Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Master of Surgery (M.S.), Doctorate of Medicine (D.M.), Magister of Chirurgie (M.Ch.), Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) and diploma in different specialties/subjects are awarded by the various universities of the country. The National Board of Examinations awards Diplomate National Board qualifications in various specialties.

(c) and (d) In order to examine and make recommendations on the need for constitution of an Independent Authority to organize and regulate Post Graduate Medical Education in the country and to maintain the standard of country and to maintain the standard of Post Graduate Medical Diplomas and Degrees awarded by different Universities in the country including Diplomate Degree awarded by the National Board of Examinations, the Central Government constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Ranjit Roy Chaudhury. The Committee has submitted its report which is under examination.

Bird-flu control measures

92. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have earmarked Rs. 134.78 crores for checking bird-flu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the enormity of this menace in the country; and

(d) what is the action plan of Government to control its rising trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has negotiated with the World Bank for restructuring of Integrated Disease Surveillance Project for Rs. 146.00 of which 126.00 crores are for Animal Health sector and about Rs. 20.00 crores for human health. The major components of the project for Animal Health sector are:-

- Disease Surveillance
- Enhancement and upgradation of laboratory intelligence
- Data management and networking
- IEC development of material and dissemination
- Supporting an outbreak containment plan
- Avian Influenza Cell

The human health component is for strengthening the laboratories.

(c) In India, the first outbreak of Avian Influenza among poultry was reported in India in February, 2006 confined to small part of Western India covering portions of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. The disease was stamped out in April, 2006 and achieved freedom from the disease in August, 2006. No outbreak of the disease was reported till 25th of July, 2007 when an outbreak was notified in Village Chingmeirong, East Imphal district of Manipur. The disease appears to be limited and restricted to a small area without further evidence of spread. No human cases of Avian Influenza have been reported in any of these outbreaks.

(d) The Government have prepared an action plan for preparedness, control and containment both for Health and Animal Husbandry sector which was put in to operation during the above mentioned outbreaks. The action plan details activities to be undertaken (i) in the preparedness stage (ii) steps to be taken in case of suspicion of outbreak among poultry (iii) containment activities for stamping out the infection in poultry once Notifiable Avian Influenza is detected (iv) Surveillance of human population in the affected areas (v) clinical management of human cases (vi) raising awareness in the community.

Music Therapy

93. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have done any research on music therapy;

(b) if so, the results thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware of the increasing use of music therapy by some medical practitioners.

(d) whether Government have made detailed study regarding the cinema music, light music, classical music, Karnataka sangeet, as a therapy, to be used to cure ailments; and

(e) if so, what medical use each of the music systems can be put to?